

Message

From: Delgado, Paige [Delgado.Paige@epa.gov]
Sent: 3/25/2019 11:01:02 AM
To: R6 Daily Ops [R6_Daily_Ops@epa.gov]
Subject: R6 Daily Ops Report (3/24/2019) -No New Significant Events; Update - ITC Tank Fire, Deer Park, Harris Co., Texas

R6 Daily Ops Status Report

Current Status(6:58 AM EST on 3/25/2019)

Report Activities(3/24/2019 to 3/24/2019)

Personnel	
R1:	Bernier
Tel Duty:	P Delgado

Outposted OSC's

Houston, TX	Zehner	
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Available OSC's

A Adams	Bernier	E Delgado
Enders	Fisher	Guidry
Hayes	Loesel	Martin
Mason	McAteer	Moore
P Adams	P Delgado	Patel
Robertson	Rouse	

Unavailable OSC's

Brescia	Fife
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Spill Notifications

					Total Spills: 9
State	Oil	Haz	Rad	Other	
AR		0	0	0	0
LA		3	0	0	0
NM		0	0	0	0
OK		0	0	0	0
TX		3	1	0	2

Regional Spot Reports

Date:	3/24/2019	Watch Officer:	Paige Delgado	Media Interest:	
Event Title:	Intercontinental Terminals Company (ITC) Fire				

Overview: Intercontinental Terminals Company (ITC) Fire Morning Update
Deer Park, Texas
March 24, 2019 0400 – March 24, 2019 1200

- The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) continues to participate in Unified Command with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), Harris County Pollution Control Services, and ITC.
- EPA continues to participate in the daily press conferences held at the Incident Command Post.
- At 8:26 am on March 24, 2019, ITC delivered a signed response (with the required plan attached) to the Administrative Order under Section 311 of the Clean Water Act delivered to ITC on March 23, 2019.
- ITC completed removal of product from Tank 80-7 (Py Gas) on March 24, 2019. Only residual product/water remain in the tank.
- On March 24, 2019, ITC continued removal of liquids out of the secondary containment to maintain approximately 1-foot depth. A layer of foam is being maintained upon the remaining liquid. (Correction for morning update: changed from 1 inch to 1 foot depth)
- On March 24, 2019, ITC continues to remove water/product from Tucker Bayou.
- On March 24, 2019, the ship channel continues to remain closed.
- EPA revised the quality assurance sampling plan (QASP) which addresses the sampling and analytical methodology for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) to utilize the ASTM D 7979 analytical method which is more appropriate for surface water samples.
- On March 24, 2019, EPA coordinated with the Region 5 laboratory in regards to water sample logistics and analytical report deliverables for PFAS analysis.
- EPA collected surface water samples on March 24, 2019 at 6 locations. Three sample locations were along Buffalo Bayou and three locations were along the San Jacinto River.
- The Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology (ASPECT) aircraft was unable to collect chemical information on March 24, 2019, due to cloud cover. ASPECT was able to take photos.
- EPA conducted handheld air monitoring from March 24, 2019 4:00 am to 12:00 pm at 17 locations. No results above the detection limit have been observed.
- Several entities including Harris County, TCEQ, EPA, the 6th Civil Support Team, and ITC continue to conduct air monitoring around the tank farm, in adjoining industrial areas, and communities downwind from the facility.
- ITC continued air monitoring on March 24, 2019; there were 2,593 VOCs readings (110 detects) and 1,884 benzene readings (109 detects) to date. During this reporting period, there were 261 VOCs readings (1 detect) and 190 benzene readings (0 detects).
- TCEQ continued handheld air monitoring between 4:00 am and 12:00 pm on March 24, 2019; there were no benzene readings with detected values.

**State, Local and
other Federal
Agency Actions:**

EPA Actions:

Notes:

HQ Spot Reports

Date:	3/24/2019	Watch Officer:	Jonathan Pettit	Media Interest:	High	HQ Status:	Open
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Event Title:	EOC Spot Report Update #9: Region 6, Fire at International Terminal Corporation, Deer Park, TX (NRC# 1240304)
Overview:	<p>On March 17th, Region 6 was notified about the fire at International Terminal Corporation (ITC) in Deer Park, Houston TX. A tank containing naptha caught fire. The total capacity of the tank is 80,000 barrels. The PRP initiated sampling of all brands of foam used during the response to determine if any contained PFOS and PFOA. Water sampling operations are ongoing with additional sampling for PFOS and PFOA and other contaminants. Booming operations continue in the areas of Tucker and Buffalo Bayous.</p> <p>The fire that ignited in the afternoon hours of March 22nd, spread from the containment area through the breached containment wall into the ditch on Tidal Road. Foam was applied to the tanks and the ditch to fight the fire. Local media reported in the afternoon of March 23rd the fire was extinguished but reignition is still an ongoing threat. No “shelter in place” is in effect at this time.</p> <p>ITC will again attempt to start pumping product out of compromised tanks into an empty tank within another tank farm. There is no remediation actions taking place on the ship channel at night, but operations continued at night in the ditch area.</p> <p>EPA handheld air monitoring continues at 50 locations located in residential areas downwind of the ship channel. Results were reported above the detection limit at five locations for VOCs and five locations for benzene.</p> <p>The TAGA air sampling results found no exceedances of the short-term AMCVs for toluene and xylene. The TAGA air sampling results found exceedances of the short-term AMCV for benzene.</p>
State, Local and other Federal Agency Actions:	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is on scene. The PRP has contracted with an incident management team to help manage the incident. The contractor mobilized additional resources (skimmers, vac trucks, and frac tanks) to conduct cleanup operations at the Tucker and Buffalo Bayou. USCG personnel are participating in Unified Command, focusing on water operations in Tucker Bayou (booming and skimming of foam).
EPA Actions:	<p>EPA and START mobilized on March 17th and entered Unified Command with TCEQ, Harris County Pollution Control Services Department (HCPCS), and ITC. There are currently 3 Region 6 OSCs on scene.</p> <p>EPA opened a Federal Project Number for \$50,000 to fund assistance received from NOAA Scientific Support Coordinator.</p>
Notes:	https://www.houstonpress.com/news/itc-reports-fires-are-out-parts-of-ship-channel-remain-closed-11262234

Exercises

No exercises for this reporting period